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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/553,989	07/25/2006	Michel Chaumeret	278670US41PCT	1354
22850 7590 03/31/2008 OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				
EXAMINER KREINER, MICHAEL B				
ART UNIT 4174		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 03/31/2008		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/553,989

Applicant(s)

CHAUMERET ET AL.

Examiner

Michael Kreiner

Art Unit

4174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4 is/are REJECTED.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-946)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/86)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/20/05
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cousin et al. (US Patent no. 6,129,509) in view of Sherry et al. (US patent no. 5,941,061).

Cousin '509 teaches an air intake layout for a turboprop engine comprising: a propeller (3 in fig. 1); an air intake leading edge (7 in fig. 1) surrounding an air intake section (6 in fig. 1) and forming a rear end of a nacelle surrounding the turboprop, the air intake section surrounding a shroud that extends behind the propeller (3 in fig. 1), encloses a compartment and is fitted with an opening panel (5 in fig. 1) located at least partially under the leading edge (col. 2 lines 1-7).

Cousin '509 fails to teach a leading edge that is divided into two separable parts extending over complementary parts of a circumference, and parts of the leading edge are assembled separably to a main part of the nacelle.

Sherry '061 teaches a leading edge (22 in fig. 2) that is divided into two separable parts extending over complementary parts of a circumference (col. 6 lines 40-41, "hoopwise continuity"), and parts of the leading edge are assembled separably (figs. 4a & 4b) to a main part of the nacelle (each part of leading edge is connected to main body of nacelle (28) by the securing means discussed in col. 5 lines 35-55).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to make the leading edge out of two separable parts, and also make it detachable from the main part of the nacelle, because as a single piece the leading edge (7 in Cousin fig. 1) would block the opening panel (5 in Cousin fig. 1). Making the leading edge removable yields the predictable result of allowing easier access to the compartment.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 5-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Cousin and Sherry, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach:

Regarding claim 5, an air intake layout according to claim 4, wherein the main part of the nacelle comprises a leak tight wall on which the leading edge is placed, parts of the leading edge are assembled separably to the main part of the nacelle through screws passing through the leak tight wall, engaged in tapped threads of the parts of the leading edge and with heads that can be accessed through a cover that opens onto the main part of the nacelle.

Regarding claim 6, an air intake layout according to claim 4, wherein parts of the leading edge are assembled together by flanges fitted with bolts, the flanges of a first of the parts re-entering into a shroud of the part and the flanges of a second of the parts projecting from the shroud of the second of the parts.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Rauckhorst, III et al. (US patent no. 5,427,332) teaches a leading edge for a nacelle connected by bolts (351 in fig. 5) to the main part of the nacelle.

Newton (US patent no. 5,947,961) teaches a nacelle intake (16 in fig. 4) connected to a main part of the nacelle (15 in fig. 4) by conventional bolted joints, and an access door (19 in fig. 4).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Kreiner whose telephone number is (571)270-5379. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:30am-5:00pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly D. Nguyen can be reached on (571)272-2402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/M. K./
Examiner, Art Unit 4174

/Kimberly D Nguyen/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 4174